

Introduction

The Petroleum Products Program maintains and enforces the minimum performance and drivability standards for most petroleum and automotive products (gasoline, gasoline/oxygenate blends, diesel fuel, motor oil, kerosene, brake fluid, automatic transmission fluid, engine coolant and gear oil) sold in California. Additionally, the Program regulates the advertising and labeling of these products. However, the Program **does not** regulate the cost of these products.

There are approximately 14.5 billion gallons of gasoline and 2.6 billion gallons of diesel fuel sold in California each year. Contaminated gasoline, diesel fuel and brake fluid represent major areas of concern for the Program. The marketplace is consistently monitored to ensure the quality of these products, as well as to assure the integrity of motor oils, gear oils, automatic transmission fluids, and engine coolants. The Program operates two laboratories in the State for the testing and analysis of routine and suspect samples. Products are removed from the marketplace and appropriate enforcement action taken when substandard products are found.

The Program is funded by a Motor Oil Fee of \$0.02 per gallon, which is paid on each gallon of motor oil first produced or imported into California. Motor oil means any product used to lubricate the moving parts of a gasoline or diesel engine. The fees required under [Sections 13430 and 13431 of the Business and Professions Code](#), are not imposed on motor oil distributed to locations outside of California.

Where Can the Laws and Regulations be Found?

The laws relating to petroleum products were first enacted in 1931 and are found in the [California Business and Professions Code, Division 5, Chapters 14 and 15](#). Regulations that further define and implement the laws are found in the [California Code of Regulations, Title 4, Division 9, Chapters 6, 7, and 8](#). Violations of the petroleum laws are classified as misdemeanors and carry fines of up to \$1,000 per violation and/or six months in county jail.